

**DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES**

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February 1, 2023

TO: REGIONAL CENTER EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: FUNDING TO SUPPORT COMPLIANCE WITH THE HOME AND  
COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES FINAL RULE

The purpose of this letter is to notify regional centers of the process for use of available funding to assist in compliance with the federal Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Final Rule requirements, and to outline next steps for regional centers in reporting their plan for use of this funding to the Department of Developmental Services (Department).

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-23 enacted budget includes \$15 million to assist providers in complying with the HCBS Final Rule, and to support broader work in each community that promotes and sustains ongoing compliance. Regional centers should work collaboratively with people who receive services, their families, and their service provider community to prioritize the use of available funds to meet the needs of individuals served in their local area. The Department has identified priorities for use of the funds, which include:

- Establishment or continuation of teams to work with service providers who have not yet submitted documentation evidencing compliance for all applicable federal requirements, and/or to work together on plans to remediate areas not yet compliant, including addressing provider-specific transition needs;
- Establishment or continuation of peer-led teams to engage with individuals served and their families to receive feedback on service provider implementation of the HCBS rules, focusing on providers not yet compliant and who are at risk for not being able to provide services beyond March 2023;
- Development of training and informational tools for planning teams to use in service planning and in creation or amendment of the individual program plan to ensure appropriate documentation is included;
- Development of local communities of practice to increase knowledge and implementation of best practices and encouraging collaborative groups to foster shared learning and solution-focused discussion;
- Engaging families and individuals served, including education and training for families/support persons and providers on best practices for aligning services with the HCBS Final Rule; and,

**“Building Partnerships, Supporting Choices”**

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- Creating and implementing innovative pathways and provider practices that support community integration, individual rights, and individual choice, highlighting a whole-person approach to service delivery.

Regional centers must submit their plan for use of these funds to the Department for review and approval, utilizing Enclosure A, by March 1, 2023. The funds were included in the D-1 allocation sent to regional centers on September 9, 2022. The amount available for each regional center is displayed in Enclosure B.

If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please contact [hcsregs@dds.ca.gov](mailto:hcsregs@dds.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

*Original Signed by:*

VICKI SMITH, Ph.D.  
Deputy Director  
Policy and Program Development Division

Enclosures

cc: Regional Center Administrators  
Regional Center Directors of Consumer Services  
Regional Center Community Services Directors  
Association of Regional Center Agencies  
State Council on Developmental Disabilities  
Nancy Bargmann, Department of Developmental Services  
Brian Winfield, Department of Developmental Services  
Carla Castañeda, Department of Developmental Services  
Jim Knight, Department of Developmental Services  
Ernie Cruz, Department of Developmental Services